

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 01865 091308Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 EB-08 /019 W
-----091310Z 085764 /45
P R 091018Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO USDEPT TREAS WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7570

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JIDDA 1865

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: USSAEC
SUBJ: HOTWIRE: INSTALLATION AT ABHA

REF: USLO RIYADH 59

1. DIRECTOR/USREP RIYADH REQUESTED EMBASSY TO TRANSMIT
FOLLOWING MESSAGE FOR BOWDEN, OSAA FROM HUMMON.

2. BEGIN QUOTE.

I PERSONALLY VISITED ABHA INSTALLATION SITE YESTERDAY (MAR 6)
WITH TED MERMEL OF OAAI AND BOB GRAJEK, GM REPRESENTATIVE.
WE HAD HOPED TO MEET WITH LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE OF MIDCO,
SUBCONTRACTOR TO GM RESPONSIBLE FOR INSTALLATION, BUT HE
WAS NOT THERE. NO ACTIVITY IN PROGRESS AT SITE. PART OF
REASON IS THAT LOCAL ELECTRIC POWER PLAN AUTHORITIES HAVE
BEEN STALLING ON ACCEPTING ELECTRICO'S DECISION ON WHERE
GENERATORS SHOULD BE SITED. OTHER ASPECT IS APPARENT LACK
OF PRIORITY BEING GIVEN BY MODCO TO JOB, AND MIDCO'S LACK
OF INITIATIVE IN KEEPING GRAJEK AND MERMEL ADVISED ON
ANY PROBLEMS AT SITE TO SOLICIT HELP IN REACHING SOLU-
TIONS.

PENDING RESOLUTION LOCATION OF GENERATORS, NO MAJOR
EXCAVATION COULD BE INITIATED BY MIDCO. (LOCAL POWER
COMPANY AUTHORITIES AGREED YESTERDAY TO SEND TELEX TO
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PAGE 02 JIDDA 01865 091308Z

TAIBA TO PRESENT THEIR VIEWS WHICH CALL FOR CHANGE OF
FOUNDATION LOCATIONS BY A FEW METERS. MERMEL TALKED WITH
SULTAN OF MIE TODAY AND SULTAN GAVE PRECISE INSTRUCTIONS
TO PASS ON TO MIDCO, SO HOPEFULLY THAT ISSUE IS RESOLVED.
HOWEVER, MIDCO COULD HAVE UNDERTAKEN SOME GRADING,
MOVED CRATING PRESENTLY LYING ON PART OF SITE, AND BEGUN
TO BRING IN MATERIALS SUCH AS LUMBER AND CEMENT.

TWO WEEKS AGO, GOVERNOR AMIR KHALED AL FAISAL BEN ABDUL AZIZ OF ABHA, SON OF LATE KING FAISAL, PRESSED TAIBA ON WHEN WORK TO BEGIN. TAIBA PLANS VISIT SITE ON MARCH 16 AND 17. THIS TWO DAY VISIT IS EXCLUSIVELY TO LOOK AT ABHA ELECTRIFICATION.

BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR YOU TO CONTACT CISLER TO HAVE HIM LEAN ON GM AND ON MIDCO. THEY NEED TO DEVELOP A GREATER SENSE OF URGENCY AND RESPONSIBILITY ON THIS JOB, ESPECIALLY MIDCO. FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY, IT APPEARS THAT OAAI AND GM ARE NOT FULLY AWARE OF PROBLEMS AT ABHA AND RIYADH ESTATES AND THAT THEY NEED TO PRESS MIDCO. IMPORTANT POINT IS THAT NOTHING WAS HAPPENING ON SITE YET AT ABHA YESTERDAY (OR FOR THAT MATTER AT RIYADH ESTATES OR NASSERIAH). MERMEL BELIEVES ADDITIONAL OAAI MEN WILL BE REQUIRED AT BOTH RIYADH AND ABHA DURING INSTALLATIONS TO MONITOR WORK ON A NOT LESS THAN WEEKLY BASIS. END QUOTE.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTRIC POWER, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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